

forced to make small issues of food to save their lives. Following this want of food and the eating of diseased horses, an epidemic appeared, which marked its results by the many graves now to be seen in Wood Mountain. The conduct of those starving and destitute people, their patient endurance, their sympathy, and the extent to which they assisted each other, their strict observance of law and order, would reflect credit upon the most civilized community.

I am pleased to inform you, as no doubt it will give you pleasure to know, that the greatest good feeling and consideration was extended to those poor sufferers by the men at Wood Mountain Post. The little that was daily left from their table was carefully preserved and meted out as far as it would go, to the women and children. During this five or six weeks of distress, I do not think that one ounce of food was wasted at Wood Mountain Post. Every man appeared to be interested in saving what little he could, and day after day they divided their rations with those starving people. I must further mention that the Indians received assistance from the half-breeds.

April 4th. Iron Dog, Sioux chief, returned to Spotted Tail Agency. I received a letter from the Indian Agent at Red Cloud Agency: it informed me that a party of Sioux Indians under "Waterspout," persuaded by me to return and surrender, had arrived at his agency.

April 22nd. Captured Alex. Bresum, who was attempting to evade Customs Act; fined him \$50.

April 24th. "The One that Killed the White Man," Ogallalla, Sioux, and three lodges, left my post for Fort Keogh, for the purpose of surrendering to General Miles.

May 10th. Sioux Chief "Hairy Chin" and twelve lodges returned to the Missouri River, with the intention of surrendering and settling on a reservation. At this date, by arrivals from the plains, the camp had increased to 240 lodges. Buffalo were reported at Milk River, and hunting parties with meat began to arrive. I again commenced counselling the Indians to return to the United States, pointing out as clearly as possible the absurdity of their expecting any assistance from the Canadian Government; also the great inducement held out to them by the United States, being similar to what was now being done by the United States Government for Indians already on reservations. Day after day I have placed this before them, and pressed them not to delay too long accepting the offer made by the United States, for the privilege of returning on such favorable conditions might any day be withdrawn. Though "Sitting Bull" opposed for a year and a half my arguments, setting forth the benefit and happiness that he and his people would receive by their surrender, my view of the question during this time kept gradually gaining strength, and at this date the camp became so favorably impressed that "Bull," finding his opposition unavailing, said:—"The people of my camp who wish to return to agencies can do so, I will place no obstacle in their way." He kept his word, and within the next five days, 50 lodges were on the move to the Missouri River, with a view of surrendering.

June 7th. "Sitting Bull," under excitement, owing to the result of a very stormy council meeting, made an attempt to rescue one of his followers, a prisoner that I had caused to be arrested at the instance of Mr. Légarree, Magistrate at Wood Mountain. By a determined resistance made by the Police, twenty in number, "Bull" and his warriors were forced to retire from the post. Several reports having reached me that evening and the following morning that "Bull" contemplated an attack on the post, though I did not put much reliance in the reports, I deemed it prudent to barricade the approaches to the post, that in the event of an attack, I could not only successfully repel it, but offer good protection to the trading establishments in the immediate vicinity. I kept up the barricade for several days, until "Bull" came and apologized for his conduct, and asked my forgiveness, which I granted him.

May 19th. Sioux camp reduced at my post to 100 lodges. "Bull" admitted that there are only 150 lodges of the once large camp of Tetons Sioux north of the